

JUNE 4, 2020

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER
JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER
RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK

JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
LEGAL COUNSEL
MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
NEWS MEDIA

 (Tape 2020-0604)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Thursday, June 4, 2020.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Cirino, Young and Hamercheck were present.

Lake County Director of Workforce Development, Mr. Patrick Mohorcic, was present to provide an update on Workforce Development. He stated that they will be hosting the first Lake County Virtual Job Fair from June 22nd to 26th and their goal was to have 20 companies and they are registered already. They will put out a press release today to get job seekers signed up. So far, 20 job seekers have registered in response to their first email campaign to people involved in the JFS system. News Channel 5 is providing media sponsorship and will help promote the event online and on television free of charge. Mr. Mohorcic also stated that they are exploring new ways to help connect people to hiring opportunities adding that during their last fiscal year (July 2019-June 2020), they were able to place 143 people in jobs. This number is up considerably from 80 during the previous fiscal year. They have also doubled in-demand jobs individual training agreements and have spent over \$300,000, which is up from \$159,000 the previous year. He explained that they have decided to revisit their marketing plan by targeting a more online presence, such as using LinkedIn to match job seekers with employers as well as creating a new website. Mr. Mohorcic stated that they have applied for CDBG funds to purchase 50 chrome books which will be rented to job seekers to assist them in completing their 30 hours of required work activity. This will help them with resumes, zoom interviews, workshops, and applying for jobs online and also help job seekers who are uncomfortable with coming into the One-Stop. He added that the employees initiatives along with the Commissioners previously announced business grant and loan program will begin a two pronged approach for employees and employers to enhance the Lake County economy. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked Mr. Mohorcic for his report and stated that he has built a great solid foundation, especially during these difficult times. Commissioner Young congratulated Mr. Mohorcic and discussed the income restrictions. Mr. Mohorcic stated that this event is open to all and that the income restrictions have been elevated which will permit more people to obtain assistance. He also added that they will begin a free Google IT Certification soon and he explained the details of the program. Mr. Mohorcic thanked Mr. Dawson for his knowledge and stated that he was the driving force behind this virtual job fair. Mr. Mohorcic thanked Mr. Battiato, Ms. Leslie Ryan, and Mr. Joel DiMare for giving him this opportunity. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that Mr. Dawson has laid a solid foundation for Workforce Development and will stay on for 2 years as the Special Programs Manager.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board at this time.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID CONTRACT TO RONYAK PAVING, INC. FOR THE LAK-BENNETT ROAD (CR 05) RESURFACING PROJECT IN MADISON TOWNSHIP, OHIO, AS REQUIRED BY THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,179,429.70 (FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. FAN E190(613), PID NO. 105936, LCE PROJECT NO. 2018-018)(20200604\E01)(E-3)

On a motion by Commissioner Hamercheck, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Commissioner Hamercheck credited the County Engineer and the Board for their hard work and getting this long overdue project moving ahead. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

2. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER OPERATING FUND AND PROJECT FUND 595, HULETT AND JENNISON WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 434-W(20200604\U01)(UT-2)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that this is part of their Construction Capital Improvement Plan for 2021 and that this resolution sets up the accounts to begin the design of this project. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

3. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER OPERATING FUND AND PROJECT FUND 595, MANTLE ROAD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT(20200604\U02)(UT-2)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

4. RESOLUTION AWARDING BID CONTRACTS TO ARMS TRUCKING COMPANY FOR SAND FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20200604\U03)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that this and the following three resolutions are annual bid awards for sand, limestone, fittings, repair parts, service equipment and tools. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

5. RESOLUTION AWARDING BID CONTRACT TO OSBORNE CONCRETE & STONE COMPANY FOR LIMESTONE FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20200604\U04)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

6. RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO CORE & MAIN LP FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit A) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20200604\U05)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

7. RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO WINSUPPLY OF CLEVELAND FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit B) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20200604\U06)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT(S)(20200604\C01)(C-73)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, stated that this is an annual agreement that allows the County to receive a small (\$1,500 to \$2,000) community grant to assist with community events. As the Complete Count Census Committee Chairperson, Commissioner Hamercheck added that this year's grant will offset some of the costs associated with the 2020 Census. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

9. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MAGGI BARTH TO THE LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2024 (20200604\C02)(B-13)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

10. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING STEVE VELLENGA TO THE LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2024 (20200604\C03)(B-13)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

11. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$966,870.64 (20200604\BC01)(C-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$541,734.33(20200604\BC02)(C-17)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

13. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200604\BC03)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

14. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200604\BC04)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

15. RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JUNE 2020 PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO (20200604\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Commissioner Hamercheck read the proclamation in its entirety. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Mr. Rothlisberger announced that the first special collection of hazardous waste of the year will be held on Saturday, June 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Lake County Fairgrounds. He explained that all items must be located in the trunk area of the vehicles and that items located in the front or back seat will not be accepted. Mr. Rothlisberger reported that the Downtown Willoughby project was completed this past Monday and the area is now open for traffic in both directions. They are still working on the punch list and completing clean-up. He credited the field supervisors and inspectors for the smooth running job. Commissioner Hamercheck praised the Utilities Department for their high standards. He stated that there was much communication between the Department, the City of Willoughby, Willoughby Mayor Fiala and the contractor. Mr. Rothlisberger added that even prior to the forced

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pandemic shut-down, they had great cooperation and understanding from the restaurants, bars and stores. Commissioner Cirino complimented Mr. Rothlisberger and his department for a job well done.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Mr. Matt Battiato, Lake County Job & Family Services Director, updated the Board on his office, stating a majority of his staff continues to work remotely and the Department is open to the public by appointment only. He stated that the applications for public assistance have risen significantly during the pandemic and explained additional State funding is being provided to families with children. He stated that the State has acknowledged that many children are missing meals and going hungry without being able to attend school and that they have made the decision to mail out \$300.00/per child preloaded food assistance cards. This program is in collaboration with the Boards of Educations throughout the State and he provided by district requirement details. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that CCAO had assisted with this program and asked if there were restrictions on the food cards. Mr. Battiato explained that the State has lifted the restrictions regarding prepared meals and pick-up and carryout food however purchases of alcohol or tobacco are still not permitted with the card. He added that there are several school districts where the entire school district is eligible (by percentage) for free or reduced meals and therefore every family in that district will receive the card.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd stated that the County buildings are open for business with the exception of Jobs and Family Services and the Building Department (until June 15th). He gave a brief update on the coastal Special Improvement District (SID) stating that he, along with the Mayors and Managers, and Budget Director, Mr. Michael Matas, are working on a plan to assist and assess homeowners for important erosion control measures. This plan will permit a 20 year payback for these landowners. Mr. Boyd added that this program is the first of its kind in Ohio and quite possibly even the United States. For clarification, Commissioner Hamercheck stated that there must be at least one parcel in each coastal community in order for this to be considered a Special Improvement District (SID). Mr. Boyd stated that was correct and that they will be meeting over the next couple weeks for further discussions and preparation of the application forms.

FINANCE – Commissioner Hamercheck stated that the Board has asked each elected official and department head to review and reduce their budgets by 5%, adding that there has been much teamwork and cooperation.

CLERK – Assistant Clerk, Ms. Kathy Russo, stated that the next the regular Commissioners Meeting will be Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 10:00 am.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - Commissioner Cirino spoke on the horrific things that are happening throughout our country and stated that Lake County has been blessed with outstanding, responsible, bipartisan leadership. He thanked the Mayors and Managers, Police, Fire, Judges, Prosecutors, and representatives for working so well together during this difficult time and added that they always strive for what is best for the community. Commissioner Cirino briefly discussed the poor leadership in other states that we have all seen on T.V.. Lake County is very diverse and very safe to raise a family and we are hopeful to get the economy up and running. Commissioner Young stated that he too is impressed by how well the leadership of Lake County works together. He spoke of the peaceful demonstration that occurred in Painesville.

Commissioner Cirino addressed the cities (38-40) throughout the country that have experienced violent protests and looting due to poor leadership.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board at this time. Mr. Boyd read the following public comment from Mr. Dave Lima:

“The death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer is a horrific reminder of what has been happening for hundreds of years in our country – brown and black Americans disproportionately victimized by state sanctioned violence. Law enforcement officers have largely been shielded from liability due to the decisions of the Supreme Court in *Graham v. Conner* and *Tennessee v. Garner*. Officers are keenly aware of the implications of these protective decisions - a Grand Jury indictment holding officers liable for causing death in the course of carrying out their duties is highly unlikely. We will see this kind of behavior over and over again unless our state legislators enact a criminal statute that would make it a crime for law enforcement officers who violate their department's use of force policy and, in the course of doing so, cause death or serious injury. It's time for our state legislators to face this issue and act. Enacting such a law would place greater responsibility on individual officers and promote needed cultural change within our law enforcement agencies. Until such state-level action becomes part of the legal landscape, officers will largely remain immune from liability.” - David Lima

Commissioner Hamercheck complimented Mr. Boyd for his proactive work communicating with the Commissioners regarding Sheriff Leonbruno's unified meeting of all of the Police Departments in Lake County and the Lake County Sheriff's Department this weekend.

He discussed the peaceful protest that took place on June 1st on the square in Downtown Painesville. He stated that Bishop Maribel and several minority leaders prayed for peace and joined the young protesters to speak with them. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that Chief Waterman of the Painesville Police Department walked among the crowd unarmed and in plain clothes. Commissioner Hamercheck offered the following quote: “If you meet people with an open hand, you get an open hand back. If you offer them a closed hand you get a fist back” and Chief Waterman welcomed the protestors with an open hand and took the time to speak with and listen to them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the Board convened an Executive Session at 10:50 a.m.to discuss Legal-Imminent Court Action with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 11:20 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-fifth day of June, 2020.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

RON YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK